

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

George B. Peck Dry Goods Company Building

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1044 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Kansas City

VICINITY OF

#5

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Hon. Richard L. Bolling

STATE

Missouri

CODE

64106

COUNTY

Jackson

CODE

095

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Langston Bacon Trustee
c/o First National Bank

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 38

CITY, TOWN

Kansas City

VICINITY OF

STATE

Missouri 64138

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Office of the Recorder of Deeds
Jackson County Courthouse, Kansas City Annex

STREET & NUMBER

415 East 12th Street

CITY, TOWN

Kansas City

STATE

Missouri 64106

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

¹ Preliminary Inventory of Architecture and Historic Sites

DATE

1974

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri

CITY, TOWN

Kansas City

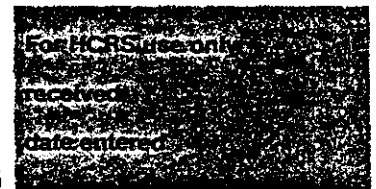
STATE

Missouri 64106

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

GEORGE B. PECK DRY GOODS COMPANY BUILDING



Continuation sheet

Item number 6

Page 1

3. Missouri State Historical Survey

1977

state

Department of Natural Resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City

Missouri 65102

Item number 11

Page 1

2. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey
and State Contact Person

Department of Natural Resources

February 22, 1980

Office of Historic Preservation

314/751-4096

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City

Missouri 65102

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The George B. Peck Dry Goods Company Building, 1044 Main Street, in Kansas City's Central Business District is an example of "Commercial Style" architecture with classical decorative elements. The building is located on the sloping corner of Main and Eleventh Streets. The frontage on Main Street is approximately 58 feet and 130 feet on Eleventh Street. This eleven story rectangular building has its main entrance on Main Street, facing east.

Exterior

Construction Materials and Colors

The first story on the main facade and partial south facade consists of polished marble, small black tiles and reinforced concrete. The second and third story have been covered over with Indiana limestone and granite. The remainder of the building consists of ivory colored brick, red brick and enameled terra cotta.

East (main) Facade

The first floor of the main facade has two entrances. One is a recessed single panel door located at the northern section of the east facade while a single light panel two door entrance is located towards the southern end of the facade. Large glass display windows are located between the entrances. Surrounding the display windows at the extreme north and south end is marble. Small black tiles cover the remainder of the area. The second and third floor on both the east and south facades have been covered over with Indiana limestone and granite. The fourth through the ninth floors consist of one-over-one double hung recessed paired sash windows separated from each floor by a paneled brick spandrel. On the tenth floor are triple one-over-one double hung recessed sash windows. The entire set of windows are framed by a segmental arch terminating with a cartouche above the tenth floor. Terra cotta foliage swags run above the tenth floor windows and visually support a decorative string course and drip mold. The eleventh floor contains one-over-one double hung recessed rectangular frame sash windows in groups of threes. Each set of windows are separated by a decorative terra cotta rectangular motif. A terra cotta keystone crowns each set of windows. Above these are decorative terra cotta rectangular panels with a criss-cross design pattern. An ornate decorative projecting cornice tops the facade. Antefix are located at each corner of the roof line of the facade.

South Facade

The south facade is almost identical to the east facade. However, the windows on the south facade are in sets of threes rather than in pairs as on the east facade, and the extreme western bay of the south facade contains only a single window. The first floor display windows on this facade have been covered over with either murals or a louvered covering, and a recessed double door is located at the extreme western end of the facade.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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West (rear) Facade

The lower floors of this facade are brick covered over with cement. The upper floors are brick with several two-over-two double hung rectangular sash windows. In the upper section is a wall graphic signage of the Peck's Dry Goods Company. At the southern most section of the roof line is the ornate cornice return from the south facade.

North Facade

A good part of the north facade is obscured from view by the Macy's Department Store building next door. The only section of the north facade that is visible is that of the ninth, tenth and eleventh floors. This area is brick with stone trim which visually creates rectangular pattern areas. Several two-over-two double hung sash rectangular windows are located on this facade. The cornice return can be seen along the roof line near the eastern end of the facade.

Interior

The interior of the building at this time consists primarily of two shops on the first floor and storage and vacant space on the remaining floors.

Alterations

1. Recessed entrance on eleventh street and major interior modernization. (1935)¹
2. Second and third floors covered with Indiana limestone and granite. (1950)²

Condition

The building is in fair to good condition.

Site

The building is located at the northwest corner of Eleventh and Main Streets. To its immediate north is Macy's Department Store, to its south the new City Center Square office building, to its west a parking lot and other commercial structures and to its immediate east is Harzfeld's, a women's apparel store.

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Present Status

Negotiations are presently being finalized as to the purchase and renovation of the building. The outcome of these negotiations will depend on whether or not the structure is placed on the National Register of Historic Places

FOOTNOTES

¹"To Improve Peck Store," Kansas City Star, 21 October 1934, sec. D, p. 6 and
"A New Front at Peck's," Kansas City Star, 11 August 1935, sec. D,
p. 6.

²"Work Starts on a New Front for Peck's Store Here," Kansas City Star, 24 September
1950, sec. D, p. 7.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1914

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Root & Siemens, architects

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The George B. Peck Dry Goods Company Building, 1044 Main Street, is significant as one of the few remaining early dry goods company buildings that anchored the heart of the retail district in downtown Kansas City.¹ It is further significant as a fine example of "commercial style" architecture with exceptional classical elements.² The building was designed by the prominent Kansas City architectural firm of Root and Siemens in 1914.³

Historical Data

George B. Peck (1863-1906) from early childhood was interested in the wholesale aspect of the dry goods business. While in New York Mr. Peck met John Doggett who was organizing a dry goods business in Kansas City. Mr. Peck became interested in Mr. Doggett's store and bought stock in the company and came to Kansas City in October 1889.⁴ In 1894 Mr. Peck was elected vice-president of the Dogget's Dry Goods Company and four years later in 1898 bought Mr. Doggett's interest in the company.⁵ In July of 1901 the company's name was changed to George B. Peck Dry Goods Company.

Mr. Peck was considered an outstanding and progressive merchant. Many of his innovative policies, such as providing schooling for the "cash" boys and girls and other clerks, continued throughout the subsequent growth and development of the business. The George Peck Dry Goods Company was for many years considered to be one of Kansas City's leading department stores. It continued operation in its present location for over 70 years, closing in early 1964.

Root and Siemens

The firm of Root and Siemens was composed of Walter C. Root (1859-1925), brother of the famed Chicago architect John Welborn Root, and George Siemens (1864-1951). Root and Siemens formed their partnership in 1896.⁶ This partnership lasted until Root's death in 1925.

This firm was one of the most active architectural firms in Kansas City. They designed many residences, apartments, churches and commercial structures. Perhaps one of their fine works in Kansas City is the Scarritt Building and Arcade, listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

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The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies in "Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan". The George B. Peck Dry Goods Company, therefore, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as an example of the themes of "architecture," "commerce," and "industry."

FOOTNOTES

- ¹"A Peck Store Change," Kansas City Star, 5 October 1933, p. 1.
- ²Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture Since 1780, (Massachusetts: The M. I. T. Press, 1969), p. 183-190.
- ³Building Permit No. 56072, Public Works Department, 18th floor, City Hall, Kansas City, Missouri and "Make Way for 11 Stories," Kansas City Star, 15 February 1914, sec. A, p. 2.
- ⁴"A Peck Store Change," Kansas City Star, 5 October 1933, p. 1.
- ⁵"A Post Card From Old Kansas City," Kansas City Times, 12 September 1970, p. 44.
- ⁶"Walter C. Root Is Dead," Kansas City Star, 26 June 1925, p. 2 and "G. M. Siemens, Sr., Dies," Kansas City Star, 7 November 1951, p. 44.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"A New Front at Peck's." Kansas City Star, 11 August 1935, sec. D, p. 6.

"A Peck Store Change." Kansas City Star, 5 October 1933, p. 1.

"A Post Card From Old Kansas City." Kansas City Times, 12 September 1970, p. 44.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME "Kansas City, Mo."

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 3,6,3 0,6,0 4,3 2,8 9,8,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 5 and 6 also all vac alley W of and adj each Smarts Partition No. 2
Jackson County, Missouri.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

1. Joan Michalak

ORGANIZATION

Historic Kansas City Foundation

DATE

January 30, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

20 West Ninth

TELEPHONE

816-471-3391

CITY OR TOWN

Kansas City

STATE

Missouri 64106

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Director, Department of Natural Resources and
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

February 21, 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Building Permit No. 56072, Public Works Department, 18th floor, City Hall, Kansas City, Missouri.

"G. M. Siemens, Sr., Dies." Kansas City Star, 7 November 1951, p. 44.

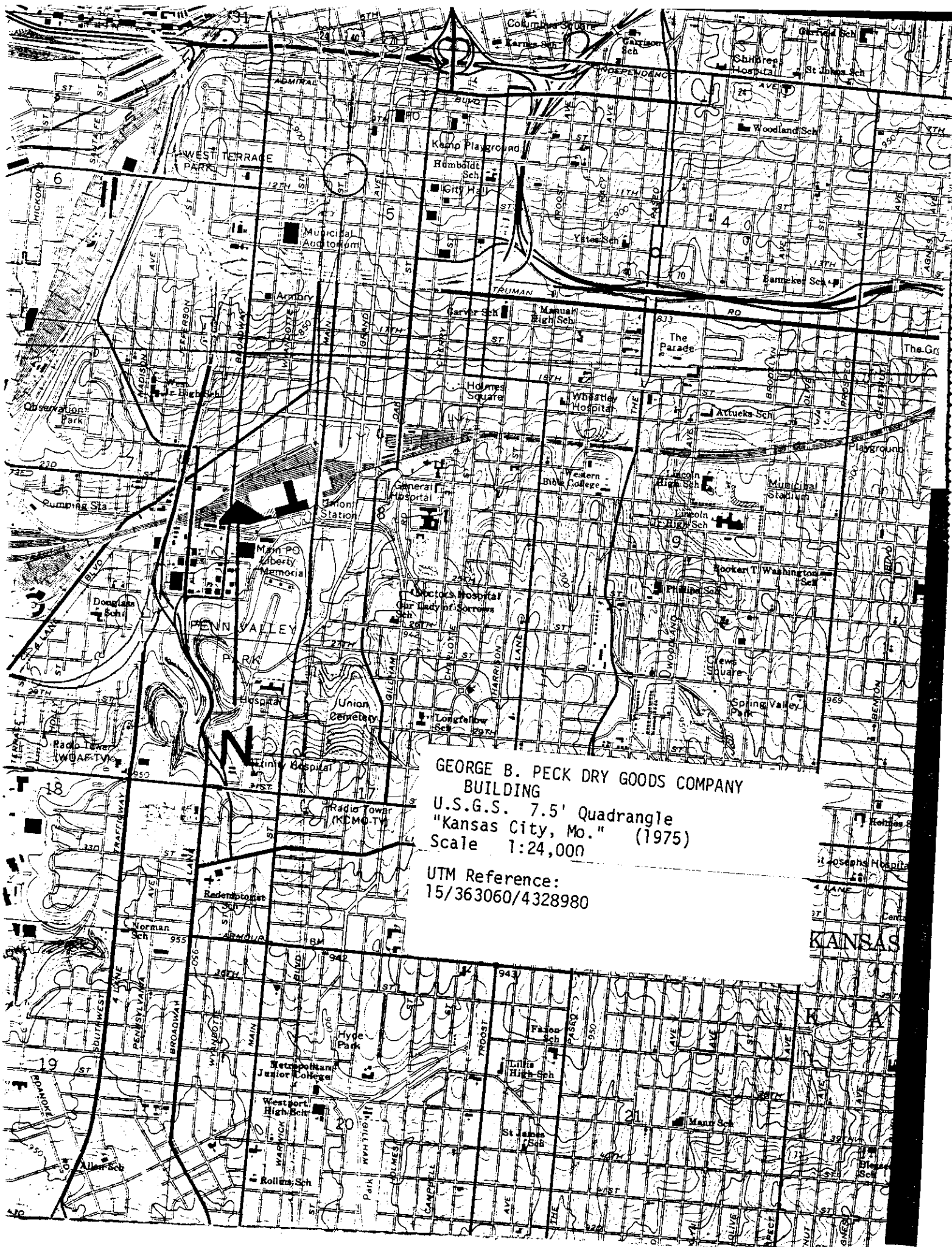
"Make Way For 11 Stories." Kansas City Star, 15 February 1914, sec. A, p. 2.

"To Improve Peck Store." Kansas City Star, 21 October 1934, sec. D, p. 6.

"Walter C. Root Is Dead." Kansas City Star, 26 June 1925, p. 2.

"Work Starts on a New Front for Peck's Store Here." Kansas City Star, 24 September 1950, sec. D, p. 7.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780. Cambridge, Massachusetts: M. I. T. Press, 1969.



GEORGE B. PECK DRY GOODS COMPANY
BUILDING
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
"Kansas City, Mo." (1975)
Scale 1:24,000

UTM Reference:
15/363060/4328980

KANSAS

PECK, GEORGE B., DRY GOODS COMPANY BUILDING

#425

COUNTY: Jackson
LOCATION: 1044 Main Street
Kansas City
OWNER: Langston Bacon Trustee
ADDRESS: c/o First National Bank
P.O. Box 38, Kansas City 64138

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.:
DATE SENT TO D.C.: February 26, 1980
DATE OF REC. IN D.C.:
DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER: April 30, 1980
DATE CERTIFICATE AWARDED
(AND PRESENTOR): March 16, 1981
Jane Flynn

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

The George B. Peck Dry Goods Company Building, 1044 Main Street, is significant as one of the few remaining early dry goods company buildings that anchored the heart of the retail district in downtown Kansas City. It is further significant as a fine example of "commercial style" architecture with exceptional classical elements. The building was designed by the prominent Kansas City architectural firm of Root and Siemens in 1914.

Tax - MO-82-00189
MO-84-00027

George B. Peck Dry Goods Company #1
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Sherry Piland
December, 1979

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Partial east facade looking west



2

George B. Peck Dry Goods Company #2
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Sherry Piland
December, 1979

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Detail of east facade looking west



George B. Peck Dry Goods Company #3
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Sherry Piland
December, 1979

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Detail, southeast corner, looking
northwest



27
George B. Peck Dry Goods Company #4
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Sherry Piland
December, 1979

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Partial south facade, looking north



George B. Peck Dry Goods Company #5
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Sherry Piland
December, 1979

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Detail showing frieze and cornice on
the south facade, looking north



George B. Peck Dry Goods Company #6
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: David Stockwell
1971

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Entire south facade, looking north

21



EXTRA
PHOTOS

The SMITH & PECK store at the S.W. corner of Main & 4th Sts., first floor of the Odd Fellows building. This store became Smith & Redwine when Mr. Peck retired from the merchandise business. The store is now operated-1973- by Mr. & Mrs. Odo P. Grogan as owners. Mrs. Grogan is the former Norma Jean Inman, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Inman.



Peck, George B., Dry Goods Company Bldg.
Kansas City, Jackson County